

Joint Public Notice



Application for a Department of the Army Permit and a Washington Department of Ecology Water Quality Certification and/or Coastal Zone Management Consistency Concurrence

US Army Corps of Engineers

Regulatory Branch
Post Office Box 3755
Seattle, WA 98124-3755
Telephone (206) 764-6985
Attn: Randel Perry, Project Manager

WA Department of Ecology

SEA Program
Post Office Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600
Telephone (360) 407-6068

Attn: SEA Program, Federal Permit

Coordinator

Public Notice Date: September 11, 2008 Expiration Date: October 10, 2008

Reference No.: NWS-2008-1020-NO Name: Snohomish County P.U.D.

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) have received an application to perform work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the enclosed drawings.

The Corps will review the work in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Ecology will review the work pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA, with applicable provisions of State water pollution control laws and the Coastal Zone Management Act.

APPLICANT: Snohomish County Public Utility District (PUD)

Ms. Kim Moore Post Office Box 1107

Everett, Washington 98206-1107 Telephone: (425) 783-8606

AGENT:

Howe Consulting Inc.

Ms. Debby Howe

1515 Northwest 167th Street Shoreline, Washington 98177 Telephone: (206) 542-6146

LOCATION: Project is in Youngs Creek at RM 2.3 and RM 5 near Sultan, Snohomish County, Washington.

WORK: Excavate and install fill to construct a diversion weir, water intake and power plant tailrace.

PURPOSE: Construct a hydroelectric facility.

<u>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</u> – The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a license for construction of the Youngs Creek facility to Snoqualmie River Hydro, Inc. in 1992 (FERC project number 10359). A notice of intent to transfer the license to Snohomish County PUD was issued on August 18, 2008. Work involves installation of temporary sandbag cofferdams for de-watering, excavation of approximately 500 cubic yards of substrate and installation of approximately 1,300 cubic yards of fill in the creek channel for the intake spillway and diversion structures, and excavation and fill in approximately 0.10 acre of stream channel for the powerhouse

tailrace. Upland portions of the project involve construction of a 2.75 mile long penstock, the powerhouse structure, and attendant facilities (roads, parking, etc.).

MITIGATION: No mitigation required by the Corps. FERC licensing requirements (Article 403) contain provisions to mitigate for impacts to wildlife and wildlife habitat including maintenance of minimal stream flows and establishing maximum rates of flow changes to protect resident fish, restoration riparian and upland forest habitat temporarily disturbed by project activities, and preserve at least 2 acres of upland forested habitat from future development.

<u>ENDANGERED SPECIES</u>: The FERC, as the lead agency for ESA consultation, will consult with the NMFS and/or the USFWS as required under Section 7 of the ESA.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The FERC, as the lead agency for a determination regarding EFH, will consult with the National Marine Fisheries Services if necessary.

<u>CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: The FERC, as the lead agency for determining compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, will consult with the State Historic Preservation Office as appropriate. This public notice initiates consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act with any Tribe that has information or concerns with historic properties in the proposed permit area.

<u>PUBLIC HEARING:</u> Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

<u>EVALUATION</u> – <u>CORPS</u> - The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Native American Nations or tribal governments; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for the work. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

The described discharge will be evaluated for compliance with guidelines promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b)(1) of the CWA. These guidelines require an alternatives analysis for any proposed discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

EVALUATION—ECOLOGY: Ecology issued a Water Quality Certification for the original project on February 24, 1992. Ecology is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, Native American Nations or tribal governments, State, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Ecology will be considering all comments to determine whether to certify or deny

NWS-2008-1020-NO, Snohomish County PUD

certification for the proposed project.

<u>ADDITIONAL EVALUATION</u>: This proposal is the subject of a Shorelines Substantial Development Permit (No. 1993-14456), issued by Snohomish County. Ecology issued a Coastal Zone Management Program Consistency Certification on April 15, 1992.

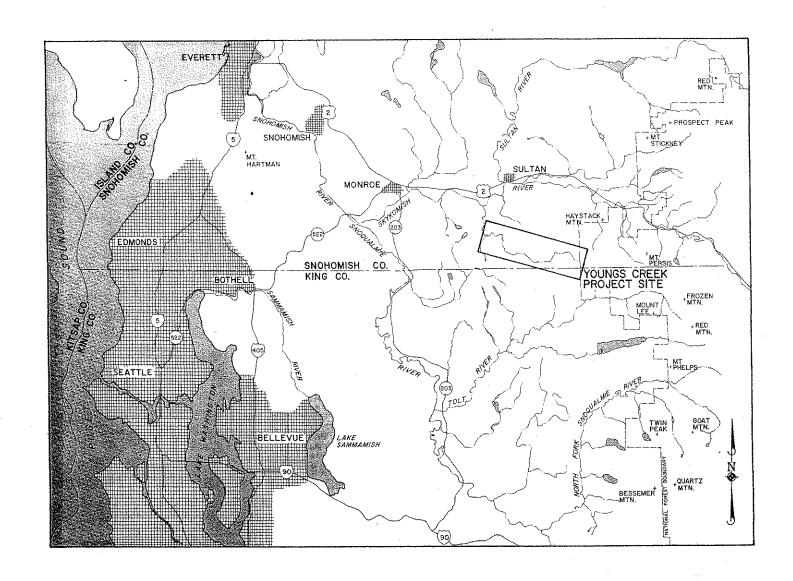
COMMENT AND REVIEW PERIOD: Conventional mail or e-mail comments on this public notice will be accepted and made part of the record and will be considered in determining whether it would be in the public interest to authorize this proposal. In order to be accepted, e-mail comments must originate from the author's e-mail account and must include on the subject line of the e-mail message the permit applicant's name and reference number as shown below. Either conventional mail or e-mail comments must include the permit applicant's name and reference number, as shown below, and the commentor's name, address, and phone number. All comments whether conventional mail or e-mail must reach this office, no later than the expiration date of this public notice to ensure consideration.

<u>Corps comments</u>: All e-mail comments should be sent to <u>randel.j.perry@usace.army.mil</u>. Conventional mail comments should be sent to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, Attn: Randel Perry, Post Office Box 3755, Seattle, Washington, 98124-3755.

Ecology Comments: Any person desiring to present views on the project pertaining to a request for water quality certification under Section 401 of the CWA and/or Coastal Zone Management consistency concurrence, may do so by submitting written comments to the following address: Department of Ecology, Attn: SEA program – Federal Permit Coordinator, P.O. Box 47600, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7600, or e-mail to ecyrefedpermits@ecy.wa.gov

To ensure proper consideration of all comments, responders must include the following name and reference number in the text of their comments: Snohomish County PUD, NWS-2008-1020-NO

Encl: Figures (5)



VICINITY MAP

PROPOSED: Construct diversion/intake structure

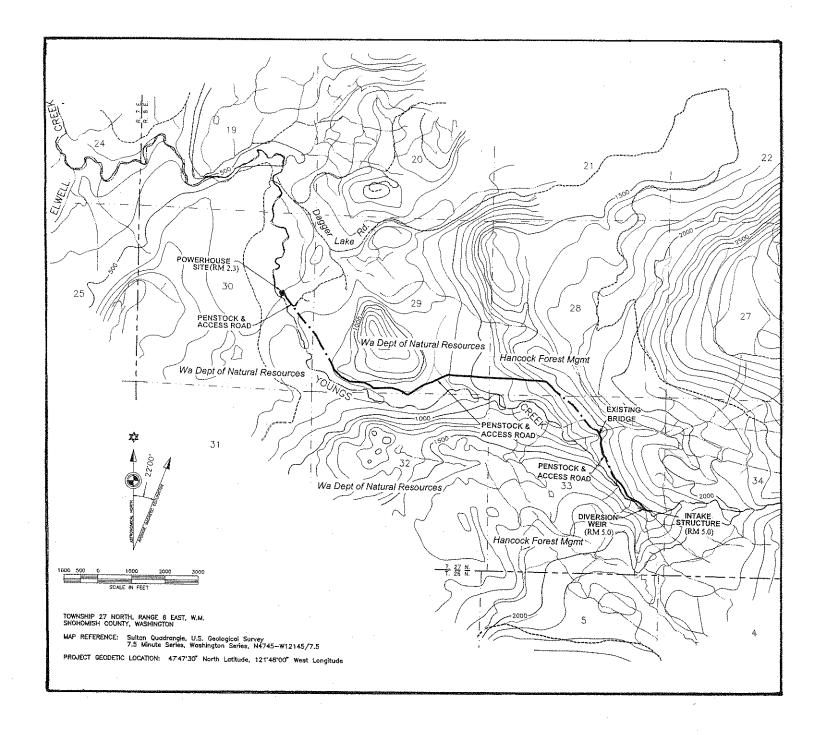
and powerhouse tailrace

PURPOSE: Youngs Creek Hydroelectric Project APPLICANT: Snohomish County PUD No. 1
REFERENCE #: NWS-2008-1020-NO

SITE LOCATION: South of Sultan, Wa

COUNTY: Snohomish NEAR: Dagger Lake Road

IN: Youngs Creek DATE: July 1, 2008 SHEET 1 of 5



GENERAL PLAN

PROPOSED: Construct diversion/intake structure

and powerhouse tailrace

PURPOSE: Youngs Creek Hydroelectric Project APPLICANT: Snohomish County PUD No. 1

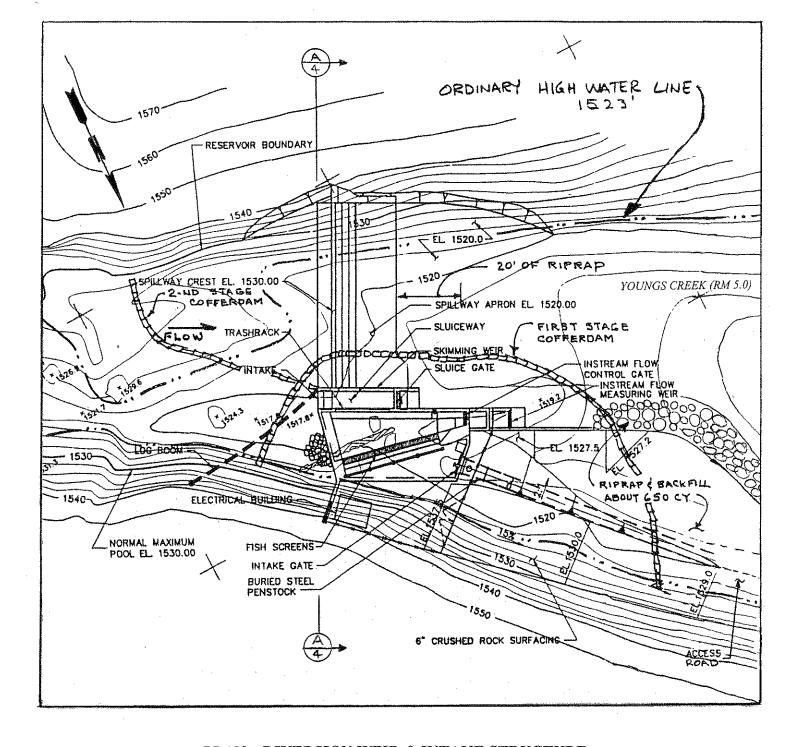
ADJACENT LANDS: WDNR & Hancock Timber Mgmt

REFERENCE #: NWS- 1008- 1010 - NO

SITE LOCATION: South of Sultan, Wa

COUNTY: Snohomish NEAR: Dagger Lake Road

IN: Youngs Creek DATE: July 1, 2008 SHEET 2 of 5



PLAN – DIVERSION WEIR & INTAKE STRUCTURE

NOTE:

FIRST STAGE COFFERDAM WILL REQUIRE 60 YARD BAGS;
1 CUBIC YARD EACH FOR A TOTAL OF 60 CY.
SECOND STAGE COFFERDAM WILL BE CONSTRUCTED BY
REUSING BAGS REMOVED FROM STAGE ONE AREA.
ALL MATERIAL WILL BE REMOVED FROM WATERWAY
UPON COMPLETION OF PROJECT.



PROPOSED: Construct diversion/intake structure

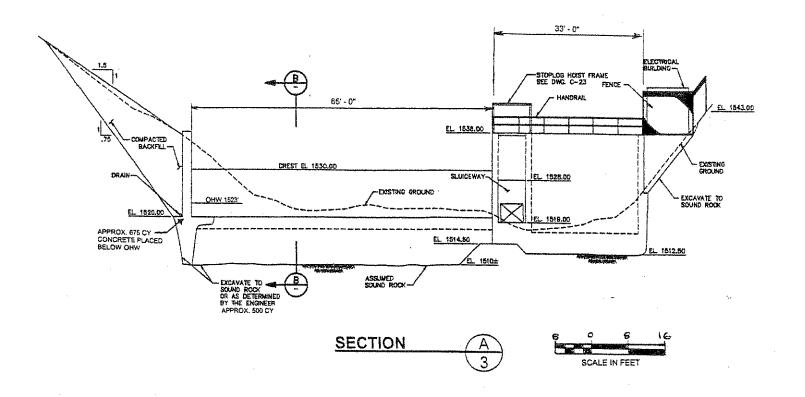
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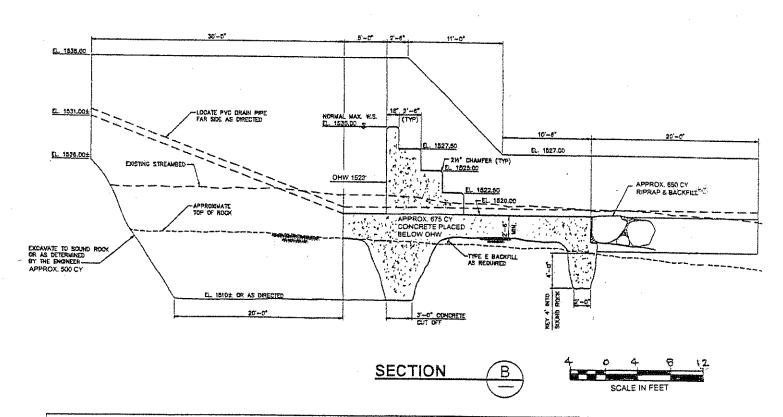
PURPOSE: Youngs Creek Hydroelectric Project

APPLICANT: Snohomish County PUD No. 1 REFERENCE #: NWS-2008-1020-NO SITE LOCATION: South of Sultan, Wa

COUNTY: Snohomish NEAR: Dagger Lake Road

IN: Youngs Creek DATE: July 1, 2008 SHEET 3 of 5





PROPOSED: Construct diversion/intake structure

and powerhouse tailrace

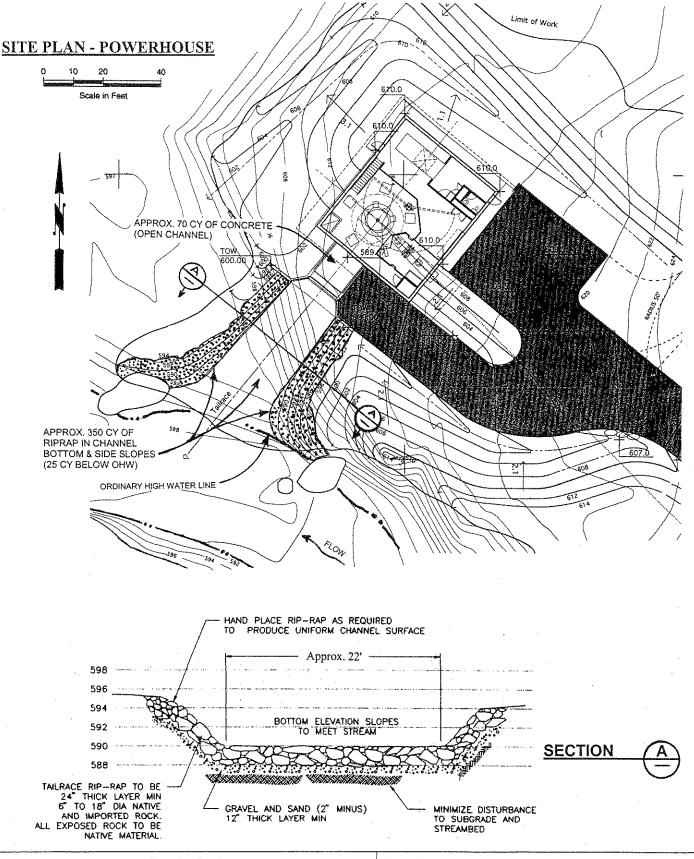
PURPOSE: Youngs Creek Hydroelectric Project APPLICANT: Snohomish County PUD No. 1

REFERENCE #: NWJ- 1008-1010 - NO

SITE LOCATION: South of Sultan, Wa

COUNTY: Snohomish NEAR: Dagger Lake Road IN: Youngs Creek DATE: August 21, 2008

SHEET 4 of 5



PROPOSED: Construct diversion/intake structure

and powerhouse tailrace

PURPOSE: Youngs Creek Hydroelectric Project **APPLICANT:** Snohomish County PUD No. 1

REFERENCE #: NWS 2008-1020-NO

SITE LOCATION: South of Sultan, Wa

COUNTY: Snohomish NEAR: Dagger Lake Road

IN: Youngs Creek
DATE: July 1, 2008
SHEET 5 of 5